

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866

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The General Assembly.

February 24.

After the holiday in honor of the birthday of the Father of His Country the house of representatives began work again yesterday, but did not accomplish very much at the morning session. No long stride was made towards the final adjournment on Monday morning next. After giving 33 bills—the net product of the hard work at the Saturday night session—third readings, the house took up the bill of Mr. McCoullough making important changes in the free school law of the State and passed it; then the legislative appropriation bill was taken up. This bill was discussed at some length, and efforts were made to make a good many changes therein, but the bill passed in very much the same shape as it came from the ways and means committee. The only other important feature of the day's proceedings was the further partial consideration of the administration dispensary measure. Mr. Garrison, who introduced it stated that it was an administration measure which had been drawn by the attorney general and had been considered by the governor and others and that it was intended to get around the recent decision of the United States supreme court.

The senate yesterday passed the Sinkler bill to limit the hours of labor of certain employees of street railway companies; the bill consolidating the Atlantic Coast Line, and Mr. Mayfield offered an amendment to the house Jim Crow car bill, which provides for the free transportation of State officials and members of the general assembly during the terms of office.

At the night session Senator Baist of the finance committee, reported the administration income tax, license and insurance bills unfavorably, on the ground that they should have originated in the other house. The supply bill was reported favorably but amended by putting the levy back at 5 mills.

Columbia, February 24.—The House to-day had quite a time over a resolution offered by Mr. Gage, which seeks to require the Comptroller General to provide \$3 per capita for each and every child enrolled in the schools of the State. The new Constitution has such a provision, but it appears that there is doubt and conflict as to the interpretation of the Constitution upon this point. The understanding is that the Comptroller General holds that the Constitution is complied with, in that the sum raised for school purposes from the levy and the poll tax is more than the number of school children multiplied by \$3 for each. The figures given by Mr. Gage confirm this statement. The conflict, however, comes whether the Constitution requires \$3 per capita for the enrollment in each county in the State, or whether the calculation is to be made for the State in the aggregate. The point is whether Charleston, which raises more than \$3 per capita should be counted as raising the \$3 per capita for the children in Chesterfield. The intention of the Constitution makers was to help out poor counties to get their school fund up to \$3, and if the dispensary profits were available there would be no need for a special levy or even the talk of it, as there would be ample in the treasury for the schools of the State. The law may yet have to be constructed by the Supreme Court, for the Comptroller General does not want to make any mistake about the matter, as in one sense the \$3 per capita is being provided under the present revenue. At all events, while the resolution was passed to-day by a decisive vote, it was emasculated by the adoption of an amendment that proposes to count in the dispensary profits—not that which is in hand, but that much-talked of profit that is accumulating and has not been paid into the State treasury.

Mr. Livingston tried to have the dispensary profits hereafter all go the school fund, but to have done that would have necessitated heavier taxes or a deficiency, and so the resolution was voted down. There is yet under the Act of last year about \$92,000 of dispensary profit going to the general fund. The discussion to-day was decidedly interesting, and, while it showed a great in-

terest in the public school question, there was not a sufficient desire to increase taxes for that purpose.

The House passed Mr. Gasque's bill to put a stop to the vending of patent medicines by peddlers. The income and license bills were not brought up to-day. The understanding is that the license bill will not be pressed at all at this session. This information comes from members of the special committee which prepared the bill. The income tax bill may be pressed, but even on that point there seems to be a diversity of opinion.

After discussing the time of final adjournment without arriving at any definite understanding, the senate undertook the consideration of the supply bill. As has been stated, the senate finance committee, by amendment, had restored the salaries of the clerks in the different departments to what they were before cut by the house, and had also increased the appropriation of the South Carolina college and the Citadel. These restorations were expected to provoke a fight, and they did. Every restored salary was fought over at length. The senate was evenly divided on this question—seventeen favored the restorations and seventeen opposed them. On two occasions the aye and nay vote resulted 17 to 17, and in both cases the lieutenant governor cast the deciding vote in favor of restoring the salaries of the clerks.

Columbia, February 25.—The House to-night did just what was expected. It passed to a third reading the so called graduated income tax bill, and the second of the "Administration" bills to levy a direct tax for the State on insurance business. There was decided opposition to the measures, and an apparent unwillingness to pass the bills. As was announced to be the understanding of the conference these two measures were pressed, Mr. Winkler, Mr. Pollock and Mr. Yeldell taking care of the income tax bill, and Mr. Garrison managing the insurance bill. The effort was made to start the taxation of incomes at \$500, but it failed, and the best that could be done was to reduce the taxable incomes to \$1,200, and at this figure incomes are liable for the income tax at 1 per cent. While the bill had considerable backing, and was passed as a necessity in the belief that it was the only thing to avoid an increased levy, it has met with decided opposition, and there is a growing sentiment of dissatisfaction over the measure, especially among those who have political ears. One member said the bill in its present shape was liable to raise more hell than revenue.

This is the first time an income tax bill has passed the General Assembly in either branch since the sixties, so far as it is remembered. The ideas and verbiage of the bill were left absolutely unchanged from the original presentation, with the amendment reducing the starting point of the application of the law to \$1,200 incomes, and where the money should be paid. The insurance bill was carried through without trouble. Statements were made that the only result of the bill would be that rates would be increased, and that it was simply swapping dollars to pass the bill.

The House had quite a long fight on the matter of free tuition at Clemson College. The statement that the trustees of Clemson wished the passage of the pending bill had much to do with the result. The bill passed provided for the charging of \$40 and gives the trustees entire power to make exemptions. The old fight of trying to have all colleges charge tuition fees was made, but failed, perhaps worse than ever.

The House and Senate seem to have gotten together on the matter of adjournment, both sides having agreed to adjourn next Wednesday. The clincher was put on the resolution in the House and that ought to about fix the matter.

The Senate opened this morning with an attack on the Jim Crow car bill—the yeas and nays being called on Mr. Sloan's motion to adopt the unfavorable report, which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Baist the vote was then elicited, and the Jim Crow car bill killed for this session.

A bill to require any fire or life insurance company whose charter was first granted by some foreign State or other State of the Union than this State, to deposit with the Treasurer of this State valid securities aggregating ten thousand dollars, said securities to be subject to any judgment against said companies, and such judgments shall operate as a lien on such securities, and providing a penalty for the violation of the provisions of this Act, had been continued from yesterday, and came up with amendments. The amendment of Mr. Henderson applying to mutual insurance companies and lodges was amended by him to strike out the words "unless they put solicitors in the field to solicit insurance," in order that it might not interfere with these associations soliciting members, and the amendment was adopted. The bill then passed a third reading.

A bill to protect the fishing interests

of the State coming up, Mr. Walker opposed it; first, on the ground that it was unconstitutional, being unconstitutional taxation; and second, that it discriminated against the coast counties. He wanted the matter tested first upon question of the constitutionality of the Act.

Further consideration of the bill was interrupted by the appropriation bill coming up as the special order for 12 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Henderson an unfavorable report was reconsidered, and an amendment was adopted to allow the Treasurer \$500 for handling dispensary funds.

An amendment to restore the phosphate commissioner's salary to \$1,500 was adopted.

An amendment was proposed to allow Gen. Farley \$500 additional for completing and printing the Confederate rolls.

Mr. Brown called attention to the fact that according to the contract Mr. Farley had agreed to "complete" the work for \$1,000.

Mr. Moses said that he understood that the appropriation was to provide for printing and expenses, and not for salaries. He said that the work was very difficult.

Mr. Pettigrew took the same ground.

The matter was debated further, the question narrowing down to one of whether or not the work was worth completing, and the amendment was finally adopted.

Mr. Brown offered an amendment to provide for free tuition at the South Carolina College for two young men from each county, striking out a proviso to allow one for each Representative.

Mr. Mayfield amended the amendment so that it would apply to "two young men or women."

Mr. Mower did not see the use of limiting the free tuition as proposed, and wanted to extend it on an equitable basis according to representation in the General Assembly.

Mr. Norris saw no objection to the House proviso and opposed Mr. Brown's amendment.

Mr. Scarborough regretted that the proviso did not go further and put these appointments in the hands of Representatives and Senators as was the custom in regard to West Point and Annapolis.

Mr. Moses was absolutely in favor of free education to everybody in the State.

Mr. Archer did not wish any further responsibility. He said that he had too many appointments now for his comfort.

Mr. Mauldin said that the lower house was the best judge of this matter and thought it should be left as the House put it.

Mr. Brown withdrew his amendment and moved to strike out the House proviso. This was agreed to.

Deschamps Not Guilty.

Manning, Feb. 25.—The trial of Ralph S. DesChamps for the killing of Tom Rhame was concluded yesterday. Solicitor Wilson represented the State and Messrs Rhame & Davis the defense. The evidence developed that DesChamps had been invited to the Rhames' and had spent the evening pleasantly, chatting with members of the family. Young Rhame was somewhat in whiskey. When DesChamps went to leave one of the young ladies was holding his overcoat for him to put it on while on the piazza, whereupon Tom Rhame ran out and saying: "Is that you, Ralph, look out?" and fired. DesChamps returned the shot three times and left. Several witnesses testified substantially to this.

The jury were out only ten or fifteen minutes when they returned a verdict of not guilty.

Told in Atlanta.

"A story is told of a little girl who was crying as if her heart would break. A little calf, bellowing most mournfully, came around the house and walked close to the child. She stopped crying long enough to ask, 'What's the matter, little calf—has your mamma gone off to a card party and left you, too?'"

A New State Librarian.

On next Monday Miss Montgomery of Marion will take charge of the State library. Miss Montgomery has been appointed by Governor Ellerbe to succeed Mrs. LeConte, who has filled the position since her appointment by Governor Tillman on Dec. 9, 1890.

The works of the Carolina Sulphuric Acid Manufacturing company, located at Blacksburg in this State, were sold under a decree of Judge Simonton of the United States circuit court. By the terms of the sale all bidders had to deposit with the auctioneer a certified check for \$5,000. Only one party complied with the terms, so the property was knocked down to him. The purchaser is Lewis H. Comstock, who bid \$20,000. He represents the first mortgage bondholders.

Turks and Cretans

Fighting About the Walls of Canea.

Canea, Feb. 23.—Great excitement was caused here last night by smart rifle firing to the westward of the town. It was soon learned that the firing was taking place between the Turkish outposts and Christian insurgents, and the report spread that the outposts had been driven back and the insurgents were approaching the town. Crowds of residents went to the ramparts of the city and anxiously watched the outcome of the fighting. The firing ceased in a short time without either side having gained any material advantage or, so far as known, causing any casualties.

A Turkish warship in Soda bay and the soldiers in the arsenal there to-day fired repeatedly at the village which was shelled Sunday by the foreign fleets. There was absolutely no reason for this attack, except that the Turks were desirous of provoking an occasion for further intervention on the part of the European powers. A white flag was flying over the position occupied by the insurgents, but this did not prevent the firing. The insurgents, understanding probably the motives of the Turks, did not reply to the fire.

The leaders of the insurgents who were shelled on Sunday, have made, through the Greek commodore, a formal protest against the action of the foreign admirals. They declare in their protest, that acting in obedience to the powers they refrained from actual hostilities against the Moslems as long as it was possible, but the Turks having shelled their position for two days they were finally compelled to reply to the fire. The protestors ask whether the powers are determined to allow the Turks to destroy the Christians in Crete like they did the Armenians in Anatolia.

INTENSE UNREST IN GREECE.

Athens, Feb. 23.—The entire country is in a state of intense anxiety and unrest over the situation and there is the widest speculation as to what the final outcome will be. The people are deeply incensed against the powers for their intervention in Crete and their attitude is causing some apprehension in court and government circles. King George to-day issued a proclamation that is intended to cool the popular passions and thus avert what might prove a national crisis. He enjoins the country to be calm and dignified and to confide in the government, which he says, is doing everything possible to uphold the honor of Greece and maintain the rights of the Hellenic people.

HOW TURKS TREAT CHRISTAINS

London, Feb. 23.—The Standard will to-morrow publish a dispatch from Constantinople saying that anarchy prevails in the disturbed districts of Asia Minor. The Turks and Kurds have seized everything belonging to the Armenians. They compel the latter to plough their fields for the benefit of their despoilers. All who retain a remnant of property are squeezed by the tax collectors to the uttermost farthing. It is reported that the Reverists are harrying the country and that not the slightest check is put upon their outrages. They recently sacked the bazaars at Payas in the villages of Adana.

Defiance of Europe.

King George and His Cabinet Grimly Determined.

London, Feb. 26, 1 a. m.—A dispatch from Athens to the Central News says that King George and his cabinet proclaim their resolve to maintain their present policy. They declare that it is impossible for them to recall the Greek troops from Crete.

The Athens correspondent of the Standard telegraphs that it is reported that Col. Smolentz, minister of war, has renewed his offer to resign. There are signs that the remainder of the cabinet are inclined to take a similar step, but any indication of retreat from the king's policy would involve the greatest danger to the throne. It is, therefore, unlikely that there will be any faltering in the highest quarters. There is doubtless a grim popular determination to follow the sacrifices already made to the bitter end. An expression of the exasperation felt at the attitude of the powers was given to-day when 300 volunteers who had been prevented by the warships from landing in Crete marched through the streets accompanied by military bands.

It is understood that the note of the powers arrived to-day and that it will be presented to the government to-morrow. The reply will probably be dictated by the resolution of the

Grecians to yield only to superior force.

The proposals of the powers is regarded as a precarious makeshift which which will not end the crisis.

The Roman Catholic bishop of Athens has sent details of the sufferings of the Cretans to the Pope, praying that he use his best offices to procure an equitable solution of the trouble.

The blockade of Crete is now being strictly maintained. The scarcity of provisions is beginning to be felt. The foreign admirals have stopped all communications between the Greek warships and Col. Vassos, the commander of the Greek army of occupation. A British torpedo boat has undertaken to convey communications from Col. Vassos to Athens.

HEARD IN THE HOUSE.

London, Feb. 25.—The floor and galleries of the house of commons were crowded with members and spectators at the opening of to-day's sitting, in view of the announcement in the newspapers this morning that the government would define their policy in regard to Crete.

Shortly after the speaker had taken his seat, right Hon. A. J. Balfour, first lord of the treasury and the government leader in the house of commons, made a statement similar to the one made by Lord Salisbury in the house of lords, at the conclusion of which Sir Wm. Harcourt, the leader of the opposition, said that the statement concerning the Cretan situation and the methods to be employed in its settlement, which had just been laid before the house by Mr. Balfour, was of the gravest character. It affected the present and future relations of Great Britain with the powers of Europe, besides Turkey and Greece, and its gravity was especially shown in its last paragraph relating to the employment of force in event of the persistent refusal of Turkey or Greece to comply with the demands of the powers. He requested the government to fix an early date for debating the matter.

THE LIBERAL VIEW.

London, Feb. 25.—The Daily News in its comments to-morrow on the latest developments in the Cretan trouble while welcoming the broad fact of autonomy being granted to the island, will emphasize the necessity of a searching examination into the details, especially the proposal that the Greek troops shall be withdrawn prior to the Turkish troops. This proposal, the paper declares, must be reconsidered, unless the international forces are ready to replace the Turkish garrison. Apart from this, Greece has extorted a settlement from the powers, and can bow to superior force without disloyalty to the Hellenic idea.

It is presumed that the article in the Daily News officially embodies the Liberal views.

The New York Journal has scooped the exclusive right to all the utterances of Corbett and Fitzsimmons until the fight is over. Now let it prove its public spirit and love of humanity by not printing any of it.—Augusta Chronicle.

London, Feb. 24.—Twenty tons of nitro glycerine exploded at the Nobles explosive factory at Stevenson this morning, killing six persons. The shock was tremendous beyond description. All the windows in a railroad train a dozen miles away were smashed.

Mr. N. O. Pyles, Columbia, S. C., has our thanks for a copy of the South Carolina Legislative Directory, which was compiled by him. The price is only 10 cents, and it is worth every cent that is asked for it.

The House of Representatives passed a bill repealing the antifer pass Act. Had the Senate agreed with the House, the members of the South Carolina Legislature could have accepted free passes from railroads in the future.

But the Senate very properly refused to agree with the House, and killed the measure. We suppose the Senators had noticed the captivating effects of the special trains—what is the difference between free trains and free passes—and wisely concluded that it was best not to increase temptations by opening the door to free passes. We do not suppose any of the members could be bought with a free pass, but the railroads would not offer them did they not expect to bring about a kindly feeling which would work to their advantage.—Barnwell People.

The world will have nothing more from the magic pen of the late Robert Louis Stevenson after the romantic novel of "St. Ives," which begins publication in the March number of McClure's Magazine. We know from Stevenson's letters to Sidney Colvin already published, that he was engaged on this novel down almost to the moment of his sudden death, and that it interested him deeply. He had the good fortune to leave it substantially complete. The last two chapters, perhaps, were not fully written, but he left such a summary of them that the course and conclusion of the story are quite satisfactorily shown.

THE GREAT FLOOD.

Hundreds of Families Will be Homeless in Cincinnati.

Cincinnati, Feb. 24.—The Ohio river is still rising at the rate of two inches an hour, which has been the rate for the past 12 hours. At 8 o'clock to-night 58 1/2 was the stage. Although the river is falling at Pittsburgh, it will take until Friday or Saturday for the crest of the rise to pass and under the most favorable circumstances the 60-foot stage will be reached early to-morrow morning. The gymnasium grounds, the baseball park, the Ludlow Lagoon and Cooney island are all more or less under water.

The expensively constructed Gest street tunnel and bridge is being rapidly undermined and is in great danger. Forty families applied at one charitable institution to-day for relief on account of high water driving them from home. The suburbs of Dayton and Bellevue have been cut off from street car connection at Newport and travel is now by flatboat.

The Western part of Newport is suffering greatly. The police reported at 8 o'clock to-night that over 100 families had been driven from their homes by the water and that the 60-foot stage expected by morning would reach as many more. The police force of Newport is occupied in patrolling the submerged districts in skiffs and seeing that all destitutes are provided with shelter and food.

In Covington about 25 families moved out. At Riverside the town hall has been opened for flood sufferers, but only a few have asked for its shelter. There have been some narrow escapes from drowning, but no fatalities at all.

Disaster Caused by Flood.

Cincinnati, Feb. 25.—At 8 o'clock to-night the Ohio was 60 feet 8 1/4 inches and rising only at the rate of 3 1/4 inch per hour. A standstill will undoubtedly be reached before midnight.

A careful estimate made to-night puts the number of families driven from homes at 900 in Newport alone. The damage in that city will not fall below \$150,000.

All railroads are still using temporary depots. Very little freight is being handled. The Big Four grain elevator has shut down. Owing to flooded warehouses only one of the eight tobacco houses held sales to-day.

Editorial Poessy.

An exchange is responsible for the following: Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said, 'I'll pay, before I go to bed, the debt I owe the printer?' There are some, we know full well, who never such a tale can tell; but they, we fear, will go to—well, the place where there's no winter."—Rome Tribune.

A strange and startling incident is reported from Forsyth county. Last week a man died and two of his neighbors volunteered to sit up with the corpse. During the night both were taken sick and died within 24 hours. All three were buried from the same house.

Electric Bitters.

Electric Bitters is a medicine suited for any season, but perhaps more generally needed, when the languid exhausted feeling prevails, when the liver is torpid and sluggish and the need of a tonic and alterative is felt. A prompt use of this medicine has often averted long and perhaps fatal bilious fevers. No medicine will act more surely in counteracting and freeing the system from malarial poison. Head ache, indigestion, constipation, dizziness yield to Electric Bitters. 50c. and \$1.00 per bottle at J. F. W. DeLorme's Drug Store.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Dr. J. F. W. DeLorme.



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